

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application. No new matter has been added by way of these amendments made to clarify the limitations of the claims and do not acknowledge the validity of any of the examiners objections.

Listing of Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows without prejudice. No new matter has been added by way of these amendments.

1. (Currently amended) A directional casing drilling system, comprising:
a casing string;
a mud motor operatively coupled to the casing string;
a rotary steerable system operatively coupled to the mud motor wherein no portion of the rotary steerable system exposed to the earthen formation is stationary with respect to the earthen formation while drilling; and
a drill bit operatively coupled to the rotary steerable system.
2. (Original) The directional casing drilling system of claim 1, further comprising an underreamer disposed below the casing string and above the drill bit, and operatively coupled to the casing string.
3. (Original) The directional casing drilling system of claim 1, further comprising a casing shoe cutter disposed at a bottom end of the casing string.
- 4 . (Original) The directional casing drilling system of claim 1, wherein the rotary steerable system comprises a push-the-bit system.
5. (Original) The directional casing drilling system of claim 1, wherein the rotary steerable system comprises a point-the-bit system.

6. (Original) The directional casing drilling system of claim 1, further comprising a measurement while drilling collar disposed above the mud motor and operatively coupled to the casing string.

7. (Original) The directional casing drilling system of claim 1, further comprising an articulating casing latch.

8. (Withdrawn) A directional casing drilling system comprising:
a casing string having an integral bend proximate a lower end of the casing string;
a mud motor operatively coupled to the casing string; and
a drill bit operatively coupled to the mud motor.

9. (Withdrawn) The directional casing drilling system of claim 8, further comprising an underreamer positioned between the drill bit and the casing string and operatively coupled to the casing string.

10. (Withdrawn) The directional casing drilling system of claim 8, wherein the mud motor is disposed inside the lower end of the casing string.

11. (Withdrawn) The directional casing drilling system of claim 8, further comprising a measurement-while-drilling device.

12. (Withdrawn) The directional drilling system of claim 11, wherein the measurement-while-drilling device is positioned above the mud motor and coupled to the casing string.

13. (Withdrawn) The directional drilling system of claim 8, further comprising an offset centralizer disposed inside the casing string at the lower end of the casing string.

14. (Withdrawn) A method of directional drilling, comprising:
rotating a casing string at a first speed that is slower than an optimum drilling speed;
operating a mud motor to rotate a drill bit at a second speed; and
changing the direction of the drill bit by operating a rotary steerable system.

15. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 14, further comprising enlarging a pilot hole drilled by the drill bit using an underreamer coupled to the casing string.

16. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 14, wherein a bottom end of the casing string comprises a casing shoe cutter and further comprising enlarging a pilot hole drilled by the drill bit using the casing shoe cutter.

17. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 14, further comprising:
measuring a drill bit azimuth and a drill bit inclination; and
adjusting a drilling direction based on at least one of the drill bit azimuth and the drill bit inclination.

18. (Withdrawn) A method of directional casing drilling, comprising:
positioning a casing string so that a bend in a lower section of the casing string points in a desired azimuthal direction; and
engaging a mud motor to rotate a drill bit.

19. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 18, further comprising:
measuring a drill bit azimuth and a drill bit inclination; and
repositioning the casing string based on at least one of the drill bit azimuth and the drill bit inclination.

20. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 18, further comprising:
measuring a drill bit azimuth and a drill bit inclination;
determining when the drill bit is pointed in a desired direction from at least one of the drill bit azimuth and the drill bit inclination; and
drilling a straight path by rotating the casing string.